

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01

OPR-02 ACDA-05 SY-05 AID-05 PC-01 EB-07 CU-02 DOTE-00

/085 W

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P R 052140Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8520

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 0082

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EC

SUBJECT: PROTESTS IN QUITO, JANUARY 5, 1976

1. THE RAISE IN BUS FARES (FROM APPROXIMATELY FOUR CENTS U.S. TO FIVE CENTS U.S.), RISING DISCONTENT WITH INCREASES IN THE COST OF LIVING GENERALLY, AND RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS, BROUGHT STUDENTS OUT ONTO THE STREETS IN QUITO TODAY (JANUARY 5).

2. BUSES WERE THE PRINCIPAL TARGETS, AND BY MID-MORNING URBAN BUS TRANSPORTATION WAS VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT. STORES HAD CLOSED, AND SCHOOLS WERE SHUT. STUDENTS CONDUCTED A NUMBER OF DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE CENTER OF TOWN (IN THE VICINITY OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE), AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, AND IN THE VICINITY OF CENTRAL UNIVERSITY. POLICE HAVE RESPONDED WITH A MINIMUM OF FORCE, BUT HAVE HAD TO USE SOME TEAR GAS.

3. AT THIS TIME, THE DEMONSTRATIONS STILL APPEAR TO BE AIMED PRIMARILY AT PROTESTING BUS FARE INCREASES AND INCREASES IN THE COST OF LIVING GENERALLY. WHETHER THEY WILL TAKE A SHARPER ANTI-GOVERNMENT TONE REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

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4. AMERICAN INTERESTS ARE NOT AT STAKE, THERE HAVE BEEN  
A FEW ACCIDENTAL ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN AMERICAN-OWNED VEHICLES  
AND STUDENT GROUPS; BUT NO INJURIES HAVE BEEN REPORTED,  
AND WE ARE NOT NOW TARGETS OF THE PRESENT UNREST.  
HEMENWAY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, TRANSPORTATION, COST OF LIVING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976QUITO00082  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760003-1099  
**From:** QUITO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760186/aaaacyof.tel  
**Line Count:** 66  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 JUL 2004 by saccheem>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2004 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROTESTS IN QUITO, JANUARY 5, 1976  
**TAGS:** PINT, EC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006